

## The Times' Daily Short Story.

## WEAPON

(Continued.)

During the war between the United States and Mexico Joaquin Corcueto, a native of the City of Mexico, where he had been brought up among the wealthier classes, being of a somewhat lawless disposition, preferred to lead a life of guerrillas to placing himself under military discipline. Corcueto was but twenty-two years old, fearless and exceedingly handsome. The consequence was that few of the country girls he met failed to fall in love with him. None of them affected him seriously till he and his band camped one night on a small hacienda owned by Miguel Sangrado, when Joaquin Corcueto and Concha Sangrado met.

Corcueto spent some time near Sangrado's hacienda harassing the United States troops. Every meeting with Concha Sangrado bound him closer to her and her to him. She soon came to understand that in case he fell into the hands of his enemies, not being in the regular military service, he would not be exchanged as a prisoner of war, but would suffer death. This troubled her greatly, and she begged him to give up his guerrilla life and enter the army. He finally consented to do so, and his men agreed to go with him in a body. Corcueto sent them to the capital under command of one of his lieutenants, intending to follow the next day. The truth was, he could not tear himself away from Concha Sangrado, and after his troops' departure gave himself up to spending each day with her, each day intending to go the next.

One evening two companies of United States cavalry, under the command of Major Mackenzie, rode up to the hacienda and camped for the night. Corcueto was in the house, and as soon as the soldiers appeared Concha placed him in safe hiding. But a young Mexican, who was in love with Concha and was beside himself at losing her to Corcueto, told the Americans that he was in the house, and a search resulted in his discovery.

Major Mackenzie, as soon as he was satisfied that the man he had captured was the notorious Corcueto, who had given the Americans so much trouble in harassing their communications, ordered that he be taken out at daylight the next morning and shot. His decision was communicated to the prisoner, who sat at once for Concha for a last farewell.

When Concha left the chamber in which her lover was confined there was the light of a terrible purpose in her eyes. The soldiers were camped on the grounds of the place, while their commander occupied a room in the house. Concha went to her father's bedroom, where she knew he kept his weapons, and, taking a pistol, put it in the pocket of her dress, went to the major's room and without knocking opened the

door. The major sat writing at a table; but, seeing Concha standing in the doorway, he arose and said:

"Senorita, to what do I owe this visit? The customs of your country hardly admit."

Concha entered the room, shut the door behind her and locked it.

"I come," she said, "to demand the life of Joaquin Corcueto."

Drawing her pistol as she spoke, she covered the major. He had uncased his belt, to which were attached his sword and pistol, and it lay on a chair a few steps from him.

"Corcueto is a guerrilla," he said, "and that is the same as a robber. My orders are to shoot all such without trial."

"Corcueto has never been a robber. He is too high spirited to submit to military discipline; therefore he has fought you independently."

"My orders from my commander are to shoot all citizens found in arms."

"And I have an order which comes from my heart to kill you unless you release Corcueto."

"Then I shall not die on the battlefield," said the major with perfect composure. "But wait one moment till I bid adieu to my wife."

"You are writing to your wife? Then you know what it is to love." Throwing away her pistol, Concha knelt before the table at which the officer had been writing. "I cannot take you from one who loves you and cause her to suffer what I suffer at losing the one I love. Spare him to me. In the name of the blessed Mother of God, spare him. I have induced him to abandon his mode of warfare and enter the army. His band went three days ago to the capital to enlist in a body. He would have gone with them but that I could not bear to part with him. He has delayed from day to day till your coming. Spare him and I promise you that when he meets you again it will be as a soldier."

The major rose from his seat, went to the kneeling figure and raised it.

"Senorita, your request is granted. I shall obey my order, and in doing so am liable to punishment. I have only the word of a Mexican girl, which would not be sufficient for my general, but it is enough for me."

Seating himself against the table, he wrote an order for the guerrilla's release and handed it to Concha.

"Take this to the guard," he continued, "and tell the officer that you forced me to grant your request, not by your threat, but by your devotion. I have a wife at home who would dare as much for me, and I shall finish my letter to her by telling her that I have been conquered by a little Mexican senorita."

Major Mackenzie was court martialled for releasing his prisoner, but the Mexican general, Santa Anna, hearing of it, sent a message to General Taylor giving special reasons why Corcueto should have been spared, and the major was acquitted.

AGATHA W. ODELL.

## COUNT CASSINI ON CHEFU INCIDENT

World Menaced, He Says, by Seizure of the Ryeshitini.

JAPAN WRECKS HAY'S PEACE PLAN

Destroying China's Neutrality Presents a Question, Says Russian Ambassador, as Momentous as Boxer Crisis—He Adds That Russia Will End the War on Her Own Terms.

Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador, recently used the following vigorous and significant language in an interview at Bar Harbor with a correspondent of the New York Herald, in discussing the grave aspects of the Chefu incident and its bearing on the whole world, when he said:

"As the situation presents itself today, without any further steps by the nations of Europe and by the United States, the grand scheme of the American secretary of state, Mr. Hay, to insure the neutrality of China has gone to wreck, and the entire Chinese question, fraught with danger to all nations, once more lies open to all eventualities."

"Do you regard the Chefu incident as closed by the excuses which Japan has given?"

"No excuses that Japan can give can alter the occurrence, and, instead of being closed, I regard it as only open."

"Do you regard the incident as serious?"

"I regard it as far more serious, in an international sense, than any question which has been before the world since the adjustment of the Boxer troubles."

"And why do you regard it in such a serious light?"

"Because it is in a fair way to terminate suddenly and finally the international agreement for the maintenance of the neutrality of China. That would be a calamity, because of the dangers with which it would threaten not only China, but every nation that is interested in China."

"Will you outline briefly the history of matters in the far east, so far as they relate to this question of Chinese neutrality, which is affected by the Chefu incident?"

"At the outbreak of hostilities between my country and Japan the suggestion was made by the United States that all nations interested in the Chinese question suggest to the belligerents the desirability, so far as practicable, of limiting the zone of hostilities, and that they all subscribe to the principle of the neutralization of China with a view to the maintenance of its territorial integrity. All the other nations signatory to the Peking peace protocol made this suggestion to Russia and Japan, and my government assented to it and also to the principle of the neutrality of China. Japan assented also. Russia entered into this agreement solemnly, believing it to be in the interest of the whole world."

"Now, what has happened? Before war had been declared a large Japanese squadron appeared off Chemulpo and found two Russian ships in the harbor. Notice was served on them to come out and be destroyed or the Japanese would bombard them in the harbor of Chemulpo. The commanders of foreign ships entered a protest against such a violation of neutrality, and in the end, rather than have the town of Chemulpo bombarded, the Russian senior commander took his ships out, made a spirited fight and sunk his own vessels."

"I will speak of this merely to call attention to the disregard of international law and neutrality which was exhibited by Japan at the outbreak of the war. Japan went into the agreement intending to violate neutrality wherever it suited her purposes. This brings us down to Chefu."

"What is your understanding of what occurred at Chefu?"

"My understanding is derived from the press reports, just as I presume yours is. There is no question as to the brutal and essential facts. The commander of a Russian torpedo boat destroyer went to Chefu after a sortie from Port Arthur. He declared to the Chinese authorities that he would remain in that neutral port absolutely under conditions prescribed by the law of nations."

"He unscrewed the guns and removed them and the other weapons and the ammunition. These he delivered to the Chinese authorities, and the ship was in the situation that she should have occupied in a neutral port and was entitled to the protection of the neutral power, which had gunboats and cruisers in the harbor."

"That night came two Japanese men-of-war. The Japanese commander discovered the Russian ship in exactly the state I have described. He attacked our ship, boarded her and attempted to run up the Japanese colors. The Russians, recognizing this as an unlawful act, defended the ship with their hands. In the hand to hand struggle which ensued the Japanese commander was thrown overboard, but superior numbers prevailed, and the Russian ship was taken out of this neutral port as a prize. The Chinese were in duty bound not to have permitted the Japanese to enter the harbor. They were bound not to have permitted the attack, and they were bound not to have permitted the consummation of this act of piracy by the removal of the Russian ship."

"What steps have been taken by your government?"

"I am not further advised beyond the fact that we have entered a strong protest to Japan through the French minister who represents Russian interests

at Tokyo. I have an information that a protest has been sent by Russia to the other powers, who are almost equally concerned with Russia. I presume a protest has been sent to China."

"What next?"

"That is the important question. What next? What are the other nations going to do? Surely we cannot be bound longer to respect the neutrality of China if China will not respect it herself. We certainly cannot overlook this act any further than we can overlook similar acts in the future."

"It would seem to me to be a time for action by Europe and the United States. I do not mean the sending of fleets, but I do mean that some extraordinary step should be taken. Japan seems determined not only not to recognize the neutrality of China, but not to recognize international law, and yet Europe and the United States are pledged to the neutrality of China and to the observance of international law."

"The importance of this thing, as it appears to me, is that if nothing is done the great act of Mr. Hay in keeping China out of the conflict—an act which we all recognize as making for the peace of the world—becomes absolutely null and void."

"It is the duty of every government to give the most serious and immediate attention to this question. Mr. Hay's act was recognized as a clever and beneficial idea. Was it worth while? Certainly it was. Shall it now fall to the ground because of this wanton act of piracy by a nation pledged to an agreement such as that? If China ceases to be neutral, what then? That is the question which should be discussed seriously."

"It is stated that Japan's excuse is that the commander of the Ryeshitini was carrying dispatches to Chefu, and it is also urged that a Russian consul in Chinese territory is suspected of being in wireless communication with Port Arthur."

"And the moon is made of green cheese! Nothing can be pleaded in extenuation of this act. There is no question of the facts. The foreign consuls in their reports all agree. Even the British consul has reported the facts, though I see that Great Britain now says that Japan must have time for explanation, whatever that may mean."

"What steps will you take?"

"It is impossible for me to say until I have seen Mr. Hay, the secretary of state. I am sure that not a government, except Japan, that has assented to the neutrality of China can remain indifferent. Japan at least should be made to say what she thinks of making Chinese neutrality a dead letter."

"In your opinion, what follows if it becomes a dead letter in fact?"

"Is it not a dead letter today? That is for the powers to say. Answering your question in that event it surely opens up the whole question of China again. It leaves it where it was before Mr. Hay sent his note. It interests all Europe and all America. It is likely to affect your 'open door.'"

"The powers ought to be prepared to give the strongest sort of admonition to China and Japan. I have always had the idea that Japan was seeking to force China into war. A few incidents like this will force war on China perhaps. Look at the massing of Chinese troops on the frontiers. They have been drilled by European officers and are now under Japanese officers."

"The ending of the neutrality of China opens up all eventualities. It is in the interest of the entire world, once and for all, to put an end to this menace. We are at war with Japan. It may be some other power next year. Then this nation that has done these things at Chemulpo and Chefu will continue its same tactics unless a halt is called. And so in time we will fall back on the laws of war which governed the Huns in the old days."

"What have you to say about the progress of the war?"

"We will bring it to an end on our own terms. It may be two years. It may be three years. But we will bring it to an end on our own terms."

"Is it true? Count Cassini was asked, 'that representations are being made to the powers that the Russian destroyer seized at Chefu by the Japanese was fully armed?'"

"I believe such representations are being made, but that does not alter the facts as they are known. Read the report of your own consul, of the British consul, of all the foreign consuls. The Ryeshitini was no longer a warship. Her colors had been hauled down. She had been completely disarmed. The colors and the weapons, even to the revolvers, had been handed over to the Chinese authorities. All the provisions of international law had been complied with."

"But is it not a new point in international law that a warship feeling from an enemy can find asylum in a neutral port and be secure from capture simply by lowering her colors and disarming and giving these weapons into the keeping of a neutral power?"

"It is not at all new; it is a recognized principle. It has occurred in Brazil. It has occurred in the history of the United States. When this is done to a warship, as a belligerent vessel, as a fighting craft, she ceases to exist. I see Japan now, instead of returning our destroyer to Chefu and restoring her to the Chinese, is seeking to bully China and compel her to send from other harbors other Russian ships which have been similarly disarmed and dismantled. Thus the situation becomes additionally grave. I cannot help thinking that out of the Chefu incident will grow very big consequences."

Port Arthur in Bygone Years.

The Chinese name for Port Arthur was Luashunkow. The town had, twenty years ago, only a few thousand inhabitants and was used as a place for the deportation of criminals.

## WOMAN AND FASHION

A Simple Blouse.

Embroidery worked on to the material makes the smartest of all trimmings and has a certain inherent elegance that nothing else quite equals. This charming yet simple blouse is made of white linen lawn, with yoke and cuffs embroidered and the plait



WHITE LAWN, EMBROIDERED YOKE.

held by French knots. The effect is an exceedingly good one, while the material has the exceptional merit of growing more beautiful each time it is laundered. The waist is made without lining and can be bloused at the back or drawn down snugly, as may be preferred. The closing is made at the center back, that of the waist beneath the box plait, and the yoke collar invisible by means of buttons and buttonholes worked in a fly. At the waist is a crushed belt made of soft white silk. To make the waist for a woman of medium size will be required five and a quarter yards of material twenty-one; four and a half yards twenty-seven or three yards forty-four inches wide, with three-eighths of a yard twenty-one inches wide for belt.

Little Hints.

There's a perfect rage for green, and parasols and stockings of that vivid hue are the very latest.

Handkerchiefs have been sadly overworked, but they really do make the prettiest kind of underwaists.

In Paris the fashion of repeating the dominating color of the toilet on the "uppers" of the boots still obtains favor.

Bags of all kinds, from the everyday leather to the gold meshed, jeweled variety, are in demand for all occasions.

Exit the Plain Skirt.

Overskirts and pannier effects are here to stay. The plain skirt is a thing of the past. Perhaps one of the easiest ways of making an old skirt up to date is by inserting a front panel of ruffling or embroidery and gathering the additional fullness thus gained into a hip yoke if there is no hem to let down.

Summer Sashes.

Sashes are returning to favor, and quite a number of Parisian dressmakers are introducing them on the summer gowns they are making. But the new sash is anything but a simple affair. It is elaborately boned and knotted, and the ends are frequently trimmed with chiffon lace.

Soft Edge For Parasols.

A soft finish is given to the edge of a plain white silk parasol by a braid of white velvet set on. This takes an edge about an inch wide.

For a Young Girl.

There is a certain inherent charm about the blouse costume worn by young girls which makes it a well deserved favorite, and each season sees it in slightly varied forms. This very pretty model is adapted to all the materials used for frocks of the sort, but

as illustrated, is made of blue linen figured with white and trimmed with white bands piped with blue. The skirt is box plaited and joined to a body lining, the two closing together at the center back. The blouse is separated and is finished with a box plait at the center front, beneath which the closing is made. At the lower edge is a hem in which elastic is inserted to regulate the size. To make the costume for a girl of ten years will be required seven and a half yards of material twenty-seven, six and a quarter yards thirty-two or four and a quarter yards forty-four inches wide.

Blouse costume.

Blouse costume.

Blouse costume.

Blouse costume.

Blouse costume.

Blouse costume.

Blouse costume.

Blouse costume.

Blouse costume.

Blouse costume.

Blouse costume.

Blouse costume.

Blouse costume.

Blouse costume.

Blouse costume.

Blouse costume.

## SCHROON LAKE

The Finest Lake In the Adirondacks.

Via Adirondack Railroad to Riverside and Levent's Coaches and Steamer Evelyn.

HOTELS ON SCHROON LAKE.

Leland House, C. T. Leland, Mgr. Schroon Lake, N. Y.

Ondawa House, F. C. Bailey, Schroon Lake, N. Y.

Taylor House (and 15 Cottages), C. F. Taylor, Jr., Mgr., Taylor's on Schroon, N. Y.

Watch Rock Hotel, George Cecil, Prop. Adirondack, N. Y.

Moon Hill Camp, Miss Helen Warner, Prop. Puttersville, N. Y.

Wells House, J. E. Wells, Prop. Puttersville, N. Y.

For rates please write to the above addresses, also for booklets and further information.

G. A. R. REUNIONS.

Meetings of Comrades After a Separation of Over Forty Years.

Every encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, says the Boston Herald, has its unexpected meetings of comrades who have not seen each other since the civil war. One of the most striking of these occurred in a School street restaurant in Boston at the recent encampment. Colonel C. O. Jenkinson of Greenville, Mich., who was first lieutenant of Company D, Fourth New Hampshire volunteers, was eating his dinner when another veteran, sitting opposite, said, "Well, comrade, what regiment were you in?"

Colonel Jenkinson answered and then asked the stranger who his first lieutenant was. The man replied, "A fellow of the name of Jenkinson." "Well, I am he," responded the colonel. And the two men then shook hands for the first time in forty-two years. The other party to this pleasant encounter was S. A. Putnam of Hyannis.

A group of veterans wearing the red diamond badge outlined by gold cord on their hats were standing on Tremont street when an old fellow wearing the same badge "bumped in" and said, "Hello, Orrinton!" to one of the distinguished ex-prisoners of war.

Deputy Superintendent of Police Orrinton M. Hanson—for that was the man the old soldier spoke to—turned around and said: "Hello; who are you? You don't know me?"

"Oh, yes, I do," said the old one. "You are Orrinton Hanson. You used to be the drummer boy of Company K, Seventeenth Maine, First division, Third corps." "I was your lieutenant, and I have not seen you since our regiment was mustered out at Arlington, Washington, on June 4, 1865, after the war was all over. That's thirty-nine years ago."

"Oh, yes; you are right," said Deputy Hanson. "I know you now. You are Lieutenant Robert H. Mathes."

Then they shook hands and had a talk, swapped anecdotes and went to police headquarters, where Deputy Hanson began to entertain his former officer, who now belongs to Brooklyn post No. 368, G. A. R., of Cleveland, O.

DAVIS IN BUSINESS.

Sample of the Vice Presidential Nominee's Sagacity.

Walter Crowder of West Virginia tells a number of good stories about the business sagacity of ex-Senator Henry G. Davis, the Democratic vice presidential candidate, says the Kansas City Journal. Here is one:

"About thirty years ago he wanted to buy some coal lands without letting the owner know he wanted them. The owner wanted to sell without letting Davis know he wanted to. It took the two a long time to get together, so excessively cautious were they. Finally, however, they met and came abruptly to the scratch."

"How much?" asked Davis.

"A cool million and not a cent less," the other replied.

"Give you \$150,000," said Davis, "and not a cent more."

"In less than two hours Davis got the property for \$400,000 and made a splendid bargain. After everything was settled and the money paid over Davis said:

"Why did you ask me \$1,000,000 for that land?" The seller replied:

"Because I thought you'd be fool enough to give it. Why did you offer me \$150,000?"

"Because I thought you'd be fool enough to take it!" They laughed, winked, shook hands and have been close friends ever since."

Singing Sands.

Singing sands are composed of well rounded and polished grains of fairly uniform size, quite free from dust and small particles. They "sing" when struck or subjected to friction. Their sounds are varied according to the nature of the friction and the quantity of sand.

A SENSIBLE MOTHER

Proud of her children's teeth, consults a dentist and learns that the beauty of permanent teeth depends on the care taken of the first set.

## SOZODONT Liquid and Powder

should be used. The Liquid to penetrate into the little crevices and purify them; the Powder to polish the outer surface and prevent the accumulation of tartar.

3 FORMS: LIQUID, POWDER, PASTE.

## PARKER AS A LIFE SAVER.

How Presidential Candidate Aided in Saving a Drowning Man.

Charles M. Stafford, who was United States marshal in Brooklyn during the first administration of ex-President Cleveland, has presented ex-Judge Alton H. Parker, the Democratic presidential nominee, in a new role, that of a life saver. The rescue, in which David B. Hill took a prominent part, took place at Mr. Stafford's summer home at Oak Bluffs, Mass., several years ago, says the New York Herald.

Judge Parker and his party visited Mr. Stafford at the Oak Bluffs club at the time, and they all went in bathing. In the party was a well known Albany physician whose name Mr. Stafford would not give, and while the rest of the party were on the beach he was swimming out a considerable distance. The physician gave a cry, and the men on the beach saw him sink.

Judge Parker at once plunged into the surf and with long, vigorous strokes reached the doctor just as he was sinking for the second time. Mr. Hill followed him, but when the judge reached the man he was unconscious. The judge swung the inanimate body over his shoulder and started for the shore. Mr. Hill came to the rescue and assisted Judge Parker in taking the doctor to the beach, where he was soon resuscitated.

A People With Tails.

A German traveler claims to have discovered in the forests of Borneo a people who still wear the tail of our primitive ancestors. He does not write from hearsay. He has seen the tail, says the London Chronicle. It belonged to a child about six years old, sprung from the tribe of Poenans. As nobody could speak the Poenian tongue, the youngster could not be questioned, but there was his tail, sure enough, not very long, but flexible, hairless and about the thickness of one's little finger. The Poenans are reported to be very simple, honest folk, with a childlike system of barter. They deposit in public places the goods they wish to exchange, and a few days later they find there the equivalents they desire. Nobody dreams of stealing. This is almost as remarkable as the vestige of the ancestral tail.

Large College For China.

Within a few weeks active work will begin in China upon what is undoubtedly destined to be the largest college in that country devoted to broad educational principles in the English language and in accordance with the most modern high school and college methods. This institution is the Canton Christian college.

## CANES FOR WOMEN.

Jeweled Walking Sticks the Fad in Newport.

Society has taken to the jeweled cane. Just why no one seems to know, but walking sticks with jewels are now the fad in Newport, says the New York Evening World.

It may be that the Coney Island custom of every one coming home with a cane is responsible for it, but the Coney Island cane would scarcely shine alongside the Newport article, which in a way closely resembles the walking stick so often seen in the hands of the British officer at Aldershot.

The cane proper is a little bamboo affair not more than two feet in length and is tipped with a silver or gold ferrule. It is carried by the women, and it is the handle that costs the money.

Some of the sticks are studded with diamonds until they are so heavy with stones and the settings that they are almost weighty enough for a weapon.

Others have various gems in them, and the society leaders in Newport displaying their canes is one of the sights. It is a fad that will last until the rhinestones and cut glass are used as substitutes.

Chairs Worm Eaten to Order.

The vast industry maintained at Paris to pawn off fake curios and antiquities on unsuspecting Croeseuses has hit upon a new plan, says the Chicago Tribune. "Ticks," or wood fretters, required to give pseudo antique furniture an air of old age, are now "cultivated" in large droves on potatoes. Formerly they were hard to obtain, but now there are millions of the vermin. The fakers let loose the wood fretters on the imitation furniture before it is painted or varnished. They are allowed to "work" for about six weeks. If they worked longer the chair, sofa or table would fall into dust. After six weeks the worms are killed by a discharge of X rays. Only then the piece of furniture is painted and upholstered and ready for the antique market.

A SKIN OF BEAUTY IS A JOY FOREVER.

DR. T. FELIX GOURAUD'S ORIENTAL CREAM, OR MAGICAL BEAUTIFIER

Removes Tan, Wimples, Freckles, Moth Patches, Rash, and Skin Diseases, and every blemish on beauty.

It has stood the test of 60 years, and is so harmless we take it to be sure it is properly made.

Accept no counterfeit of similar name. Dr. T. F. Gouraud, Dr. J. A. Bayre, and Dr. A. Bayre, said to a lady of the London G. A. R. Club:

"As you ladies will use them, I will use them, I will use them, I will use them."

"Gouraud's Cream" is the least harmful of all the skin preparations.

For sale by all Druggists and Fancy Goods Dealers in the U. S., Canada, and Europe.

FERD. T. HOPKINS, Prop'r, 37 Great Jones St., N. Y.

as the least harmful of all the skin preparations.